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ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE
UNITED STATES COURTS

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

November 28, 2003

MEMORANDUM TO ALL: UNITED STATES JUDGES
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVES
FEDERAL PUBLIC/COMMUNITY DEFENDERS
DISTRICT COURT EXECUTIVES
CLERKS, UNITED STATES COURTS
CHIEF PROBATION OFFICERS
CHIEF PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICERS
SENIOR STAFF ATTORNEYS
CHIEF PREARGUMENT/CONFERENCE ATTORNEYS
BANKRUPTCY ADMINISTRATORS
CIRCUIT LIBRARIANS

SUBJECT: *Amendments to the Rules of Practice and Procedure* **(INFORMATION)**

Congress adjourned on November 25, 2003, and is not scheduled to return until December 8-9, 2003. Congress took no action on the amendments to the Federal Rules of Appellate, Bankruptcy, and Civil Procedure, and the Federal Rules of Evidence, approved by the Supreme Court on March 27, 2003. Accordingly, the following amendments to the rules will take effect on December 1, 2003:

- Appellate Rules: Official Forms 1, 2, 3, and 5;
- Bankruptcy Rules 1005, 1007, 2002, 2003, 2009, and 2016, and new Rule 7007.1;
- Civil Rules 23, 51, 53, 54, 71A, and Forms 19, 31, and 32; and
- Evidence Rule 608(b)

The amendments were mailed to you in April 2003 as part of House Documents 108-56, 108-57, and 108-58. In accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 2074(a) and the March 27, 2003, orders of the Supreme Court, the pertinent amendments will govern all proceedings commenced on or after December 1, 2003, and "insofar as just and practicable" all proceedings then pending. The text of

the amended rules can be found on the judiciary's Federal Rulemaking web site at <http://www.uscourts.gov/rules/> . In addition, pamphlets containing the rules, as amended, will be sent to you as soon as they become available from the Government Printing Office.

If you have any questions concerning the status of these amendments please call Peter G. McCabe, Assistant Director, Office of Judges Programs at (202) 502-1800, or John K. Rabiej, Chief, Rules Committee Support Office at (202) 502-1820.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Leonidas Ralph Mecham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L" and "M".

Leonidas Ralph Mecham